SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS-COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

THE HANDSOME ENGLISHMAN.

From the N. Y. Tribune. Mr. Darwin seems strong in his facts when collected by other people, and only arranged by himself. He is an authority on six-tood cats, and benevolent monkeys, and esthetic bower-birds, even without having seen them. But when it comes to the high-born Briton, whom he must have seen-for if a cat may look upon a king, surely a dissector of cats may contemplate a marquis—some glamour seems to come over him. He does not use his eyes, apparently, but accepts the traditions of ages as reverently as if he were an archbishop. He attributes "the beauty of the upper classes in England to the men having long selected the more beautiful women." (Descent of Man, pp. 340-1, Am. ed.)

The annual inroad of travelling Englishmen is now becoming so large among us that even untravelled Americans are becoming familiar with their looks. Many of these youths are, or purport to be, of high social position; and anxious inquiries are beginning to be made why the representatives of this aristocratic beauty do not appear among these travellers.

n the frank language of the Washington oung lady, remonstrating with the High Joint Commissioner on this very subject, "If the Queen has them, why does she not send one of them over here?" One sees handsome Englishmen, no doubt, but they are apt to be on the forward deck of the yacht, not in the cabin; on the outside of the carriage in Central Park, not inside. They are apt to be grooms, or gardeners, or sailors, or belong in some way to the degraded class of "cads." Why should there be this difference? As Darwin justly remarks (though with an opposite application), these classes "are placed under equally favorable circumstances for the per-fect development of the body." Why is it that, as a general rule, the fine young English gentleman who visits us is less goodlooking than the man servant he brings with him? We speak in sorrow, not in anger. Everybody likes to see a handsome When we are to meet Lord Frederick Fitzregal at the club or at a dinner party, we desire to see some one who has stepped out of "Guy Livingstone"-such a youth as Bulwer first created and Wilkie Collins is now endeavoring to extinguish. The chances are that when the door opens, there shuffles in an underlight-haired, near-sighted, awkward boy, with a drawling Dundreary voice, who seems afraid of his own shadow, and cannot greet man or woman in a frank or easy way. He has a certain blunt and stammering simplicity, which is not to be despised. But even the imagination of Mr. Darwin, which sees infinite tenderness in a howling monkey
—even the beautiful self-abnegation of Mr. Disraeli, which bows its head before a class, cannot possibly attribute anything but physical forlornness to this individual representative. There may be handsome Englishmen of the upper classes, but they must love their homes very much. They rarely come here. We remember a certain public ball at a watering place whither Young New York carried its thinnest legs and its slenderest chests; and the general result to a lover of his country was not encouraging. Presently there entered the room an English viscount, the son of an earl. All eyes were turned on him with renewed cheerfulness; he was so utterly insignificant of aspect, that

race of giants. Punch had a caricature, the other day, representing two young English clerks or bagmen of the most wee and emaciated aspect, seated on a tobacconist's counter, puffing cigars obviously beyond their strength, and deploring the physical degeneracy of the Americans. But Punch, with all his daring, still cherishes the traditional reverence for the aristocracy, or he would have taken his two youths from a higher class. The average English rustic who comes to America is physi-cally respectable, coarse but strong; he mispronounces, but he has manly chest-tones; he is not near-sighted, nor one-sided, nor undersized; he is what the French call "un homme But who could see anything solid or commanding in most of the young noblemen who run through America and pause a little while in Washington, or New York, or Newport, on their way to Salt Lake City? Actually, we Americans are beginning to disbelieve in Pelham and all his progeny, and to hold the only true type of the blood in Eng-land to be Mrs. Edward's "little Lord Petre" in "Steven Lawrence." Or is it, after all, that the Lord Petres travel—for their health -and that Mr. Darwin's "beauties of the upper classes" stay at home?

even the fast young New Yorkers seemed a

JEFF. DAVIS AND THE DEMOCRACY.

From the N. Y. Times. The ex-President of the Confederacy is

getting to be a veritable Old Man of the Mountain to the Democratic party. The frantic efforts they are now making to shake him off are laughable, when one re-members how they have been wont to sympathize with him, apologize for him, and give him aid and comfort in times past. It would not be strange if the Democracy should be found, ere long, clamoring for his life as loudly as they formerly pleaded to save him from the gallows. The World, which used to be his best friend and firmest supporter, is especially venomous in its present treatment of the Rabel chief. It has taken to calling him names, and actually surpasses, in its contemptuous epithe vituperation which, during the Rebellion, it poured out upon the head of President Lincoln. In a single article in Friday's World, we find the once renowned, patriotic, virtuous, and brilliant Jeff. stigmapatriotic, virtuous, and brilliant Jeff. stigma-tized as "broken old Jeff. Davis," "an utter political wreck," a "bankrupt politician," a "false prophet" indulging in his "dotage folly," etc. "A cause must be desperate in-deed," says the World, "that can find no better advocate than Jeff. Davis," Jeff. might reply with equal truth that "a cause must be desperate indeed that can find no better advocate than the World." Of the two we think Jeff. Davis is the ablest, as he certainly is the most honest and consistent advocate. He does not change his principles with every change of the moon. He does not call men "awindlers," "thieves," and "high-way robbers" one day, and pure and honest officials the next. This may be owing to his never having edited a corporation paper.

Jeff, is a wicked criminal we admit, and ought to be hanged, but he is no more wicked than he was eight or ten years ago, when the World and the Democratic party

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ago. He still believes in the "lost cause," and, if there was any meaning in their words, so did they. He is for keeping open the issues which Republicans claim were settled

by the war; so were they.

The World talks about the "complete una-The World telks about the "complete unanimity of the Democratic party in discarding bygone issues," and says "the New York
Democracy defined their position long ago."
How long, pray? It is barely a year since
the Democratic party of New York met in
convention, at Rochester, to nominate Judges
of the Coart of Appeals. There was no particular necessity for introducing party polities and especially national politics into such ties, and especially national politics, into such a convention, but the Democracy did introduce them nevertheless. They were so fullof the subject that they could not keep it out, and what did they say? The burden of the speeches was precisely in accordance with the position occupied by Jeff. Davis to-day. The constitutional amendments were to be resisted at all hazards, and the State judiciary was to be made a party to the new revolution. One of the chief speakers in that convention, and the man who acted as spokesman of the Tammany delegation, was Richard O'Gorman-the "silver-tongued O'Gorman," as the Democracy delight to call him. In advocating the nomination of Sanford E. Church for Chief Justice, Mr. O'Gorman said that "the Democratic party required a politician for Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals quite as much as a lawyer. The usurpations of Congress and the so-called amendments to the Constitution which that body had imposed on the country, required a man at the head of the Judiciary of this State who would stand firm. We had gone through, and might still go through, revolutionary times. There was only one Democrat in the convention (Mr. Ruger, of Onondaga), who had the courage to rebuke these utterances; the majority applauded them, and Mr. Church was nominated against Judge Comstock, whowas the candidate of those who, like Mr. Ruger, argued that "the State of New York; needed a great lawyer and not a great politi-cian for Chief Judge." Who believes that the Democratic party of this State really hold any different principles now from what they did a year ago? And why should they attempt to hiss down Jeff. Davis now for uttering sentiments which they applauded then? They ought rather to reward him for his fidelity, and to adopt as a candidate the man whom

"THE NEW DEPARTURE."

for ten years, they have followed as a guide.

From the N. Y. World. Now that the question of forbearing any further opposition to the new amendments is virtually decided, it may not be amiss to consider the nature of the "situation" which the Democratic party "accepts." We can best describe it by a comparison. Suppose that, in the trial of a civil suit, there is a mixed panel of white and colored jurymen. John Doe, one of the parties to the suit, challenges every colored juryman whose name is drawn from the box but in spite of his is drawn from the box, but, in spite of his opposition, the jury as actually sworn is finally composed of nine white and three colored citizens. Would John Doe act like a man of sense if he should thereupon petulantly give up his case and refuse to produce his witnesses? The merits of his suit are not altered by the composition of the jury. The presence of the black jurymen cannot change either the law or the facts; and since his case must be tried by that jury, he will, if a wise man, direct his counsel to take even more pains than usual, and carefully avoid insulting the black jurymen. There they are, on the jury benches; and whether he like or dislike them, he cannot get them away until they have rendered their verdict. Quite similar to this is the political situa-

tion since the establishment of negro suffrage. The political questions remain precisely the same as if they were to be decided by the votes of unadulterated white constitnencies. The really important thing is tohave these questions rightly decided, ac-cording to their true merits; not whether the decision is made by a larger or a smaller constituency of voters. The point for the jury to try is not whether their own body is properly composed, but the questions of fact between the plaintiff and defendant in the suit before them. We only muddle and confuse political con-troversies if we fail to distinguish between he questions to be decided and the persons who are to decide them. By accepting negro suffrage we increase our chances of a candid hearing on practical issues. The negroes are of little account if we can con-trol the judgment of the white voters. There are ten white voters to one negro voter, taking the country at large. In twenty-two of the thirty-seven States there are thousands of whites entitled to the elective franchise to every negro, and those twenty-two States contain more than two-thirds of our population. It is their public opinion which we need to influence, which we can most easily do by withdrawing their attention from the decided question of suffrage, and fixing it upon pending questions of public policy. The misrule of the last ten years has been the fruit of misguided white voting. Its chief support has been white majorities in the Northern States, in most of which negroes have not voted at all until within the last fourteen months, since the fifteenth amendment was declared adopted. It is not negro voting but perverse white voting that has so nearly ruined the

country. Now, on the question whether the right of suffrage shall be continued to the negroes the Republican majorities would be as great as heretofore. Nay, they would be altogether larger, for most Democrats do not wish to arrest the experiment. It is too obvious that for the Democratic party to make negro suffrage a political issue would be courting inevitable, overwhelming defeat, because a preponderant and constantly growing majority of the people are unwilling to disturb what has been done. It is high time, then, for us to accept the settled composition of the jury, and proceed to argue our case on its merits. We therefore most heartily rejoice in the declaration of the Ohio Democracy that they "recognize as accomplished facts the three amendments to the Constitution recently declared adopted, and consider the same as no longer political issues before the country;" and we feel equal satisfaction in the further unequivocal, emphatic declaration "that the Democratic party pledges itself to a full, faithful, and absolute execution and enforcement of the Constitution as it now is, so as to secure equal rights to all persons under it, without distinction of race, color, or condition."

The World long ago foresaw that this policy was inevitable, and that the continued existence and future triumphs of the Democratic party were staked upon its adoption. For a time we stood almost alone, and incurred no small suspicion and obloquy from persons who now take up our views with the zeal of new converts. We are too glad of this co-operation, and have the welfare and success were giving him all the aid and encourage, of the party too much at heart, to reproach ment they dared to give. Indeed, we cannot anybody with alowness or inconsistency. We see wherein Jeff. Davis differs from the have tried to be faithful to the light which Democratic party as they stood even one year | was given us, and the strong indorsements

we are receiving from the whole party atones for the detraction and distrust of which we were the object before the "sober second thought which is generally wise and always efficient" had matured the views of the party. We claim no other merit than fidelity to our sentiment of daty. The irrepressible tendency of things, operating on popular good sense and rectitude of feeling, would have brought the party sconer or later to the same position if the World had followed the party instead of leading it. The sun shines first upon the meuntain tops, but they are not therefore the cause of day. The earth has but to revolve a little forther on its axis for the light to page little farther on its axis for the light to penetrate every valley and illuminate the darkest ravines. We suppose it will now be conceded that the World foresaw the tendency of events and correctly estimated their consequences; but the only credit it claims is that of an unshrinking declaration of its sentiments when it thought them timely and useful, at some expense of popularity.

CITY NOMINATIONS.

Frankford (Philadelphia) Herald. We have witnessed with considerable interest the recent triangular fight between the Post, TELEGRAPH, and Bullstin over the prospective municipal nominations of the party to the advancement of which they are more or less ardently devoted. Notwithstanding the ominous indications, the Post is evidently preparing to swallow the ticket, whatever be its character, smack its lips, and cry "Hurrah, boys, for our side!" The Bulletin is so proverbially uncertain and inconsistent, so persistently contrary, its antics continually reminding the observer of the stupid capers of a well-known jack-animal, that it is impossible to tell howlong the streak of virtue which at present affects it will last. THE TELEGRAPH, during the past two years, has repeatedly given evidence of an earnest desire to secure political reform, especially in municipal affairs, and we there-fore hope to see it stand firm in the present crisis. The agitation caused by its bold articles shows how easy it would be to secure good nominations and thorough reform, in both parties, if the press of Philadelphia would heartily unite in a determined effort to secure that end. Alas! that we are compelled to use the word "if!"

But, whatever course our journals pursue, this may be put down as a foregone conclusion-at the next municipal election in this city the party will win that presents the best ticket. The Post may call it treachery or what it pleases, but, when The Evening Telegraph says that, at the coming election, "thousands of independent Republicans will gladly embrace an opportunity for making an earnest effort to secure the best possible selection of local officials, irrespective of partisan affinities," it utters a plain, wholesome truth. The people of Philadelphia are completely disgusted with the schemes of political demagogues, and, we predict, will give effective evidence of their determination to thwart them.

SPECIAL NOTICES. PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT. PHILADELPHIA, May 2, 1871.

The Board of Directors have this day declared a semi-annual dividend of FIVE PER CENT, on the capital stock of the Company, clear of National and State taxes, payable in cash, on and after May

Blank powers of attorney for collecting dividends can be had at the office of the company.

The office will be open at 3-A. M., and close at 3 P. M., from May 30 to June 2, for the payment of dividends, and after that date from 9 A. M. to 3 THOMAS T. FIRTH, Treasurer.

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